OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

the City Of Augusto

Proclamation

IN RECOGNITION of "Mental Health Month"

WHEREAS, mental health is essential to everyone's overall physical health and emotional well-being; and

WHEREAS, mental illness will strike one in five adults and children in a given year regardless of age, gender, race, ethnicity, religion or economic status; and

WHEREAS, people who have mental illnesses can recover and lead full, productive lives; and

WHEREAS, an estimated two-thirds of adults and young people who have mental health disorders are not receiving the help they need; and

WHEREAS, the cost of untreated and mistreated mental illnesses and addictive disorders to American businesses, governments and families has grown to \$113 billion annually; and

WHEREAS, community-based services that respond to individual and family needs are cost-effective, and beneficial to consumers and the community; and

WHEREAS, the National Mental Health Association and its national partners observe Mental Health Month every May to raise awareness and understanding of mental health and illness.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Bob Young, Mayor of the City of Augusta, do hereby proclaim May 2005 as "MENTAL HEALTH MONTH" in Augusta, Georgia. As the Mayor, I also call upon the citizens, government agencies, public and private institutions, businesses and schools in Augusta, Georgia, to recommit our community to increasing awareness and understanding of mental health, and the need for appropriate and accessible services for all people who have mental illnesses.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of Augusta, Georgia, to be affixed this 12th day of May 2005.